

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Do you want a convenient place to do internet job searches? Call **North Park Library** at 226-7185, **Positive Attitude Youth Center** at 585-0844, and/or **East Burlington Community Center** at 226-0785.
- Sixteen to twenty-one years old and looking for a job? Contact **Building Futures** at 227-6050.
- Is there **graffiti** in your neighborhood? Call the **hotline** at 229-3159.
- Are you an ex-offender in need of assistance? Please call **Project SAFE Alamance** at 513-5413.
- Would you like to organize a **Community Watch** for your neighborhood? Please call 513-5449.
- Would you like to get your **GED**? Please call **Alamance Community College (ACC)** at 506-4377.

Together We Have...

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...improved the quality of life in our neighborhoods,

Some five years ago the **Weed and Seed** initiative was introduced to the City of Burlington with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Capacity Development Office. The objective was to decrease the concentration of crime in the northeastern portion of the city. The strategy was twofold: 1) to suppress and deter criminal activity (see 2nd page), and 2) to assist in providing the services required to improve the



quality of life in our neighborhoods. To achieve this, stakeholders and residents regularly met to plan and coordinate



Ribbon-cutting at Positive Attitude Youth Center's (PAYC) New Location

actions focused on the designated Weed and Seed area.

Many things were accomplished. GED, ESL, and parenting classes were offered in the designated area with free child-care services for these students. Afterschool care services were extended. Summer reading camps were organized. Youth

leadership training and anti-gang awareness forums were held. Lab Corp donated more than 30 refurbished computers for community use. Classroom supplies and furniture were purchased for PAYC's new facility. Job seeking skills and mentorship were offered at the Tucker St Sub-Station. Book give-a-ways and community health screenings were offered. Leadership training for community organizers was offered, as well as assistance in grant writing. For the last 3 years, free tax return preparation services (VITA) were provided. This saved \$126,000 in tax prep. Fees. It also generated \$375,000 in Fed. refunds, and \$163,000 in Earned Income Credits for low income clients. These activities are direct investments which improved our city's quality of life.

...helped make change by volunteering in many ways,



VITA - Free Tax Preparation



PSA Homicide Response



"Hoops for Hope" Basketball



Burlington Weed and Seed Initiative

267 West Front Street
Burlington, NC 27215

Phone: 336-570-6530

Fax: 336-229-3146

Leave No Neighborhood Behind.



Extra Duty Patrols

Extra duty patrols were added throughout the Weed and Seed neighborhoods. More than **10,400 hours of extra patrols and surveillance** took place during this five year period. More than **1300 arrests, arrest warrants, and/or citations** took place or were issued to individuals engaging in illegal activities. In order to create a safe and orderly community officers surveyed the neighborhoods' needs and problem-solved with the help of many residents.

If you have useful information that might solve or prevent a crime, call **Crime Stoppers at 336-229-7100**. You may be eligible for an award.

Project Safe Alamance (PSA)

PSA and our **Reentry Initiative** are helping to reduce the recidivism rate among ex-offenders returning to our county. Some 600 offenders are released to Alamance county each year after serving their time. Every successful reentry to our community means less crime and a safer community.

Over the course of the last two years, 24 ex-offenders who had prior gun charges were warned to put their guns away permanently. Federal laws prohibit gun ownership by ex-offenders and their violation often results in federal charges and very long sentences. Many of these ex-offenders have decided to change their lives and take advantage of the reentry assistance that is locally available. Please call 513-5413 for more information.

The Future of Weed and Seed

Federal funding for Weed and Seed has ended. However, our need to continue the effort remains. In light of this, our steering committee has decided to continue meeting to guide this work. The City of Burlington has decided to continue to staff the program. The U.S. Department of Justice has allowed us to continue to use the Weed and Seed name and logo as an approved Graduated Weed and Seed Site.

We have two main goals: 1) continue to reduce the concentration of crime in the designated areas, 2) increase community involvement in crime prevention.

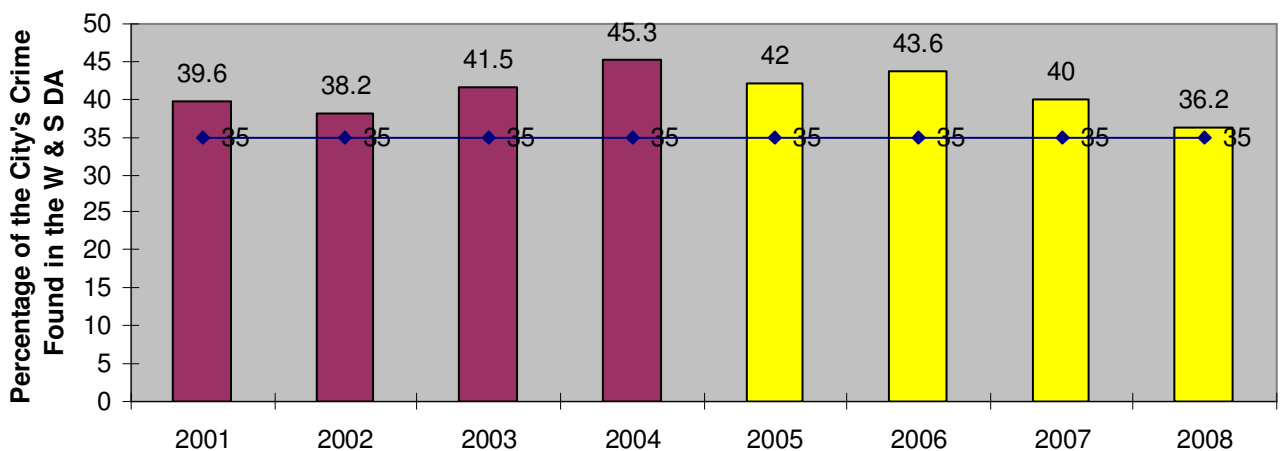
To achieve these goals we will apply the following strategy: 1) leverage local, state, federal, public and private resources, 2) coordinate law enforcement and social service activities in designated areas, 3) advocate for greater community policing, 4) enhance community outreach and prevention activities, and 5) increase volunteerism.

Specific activities to be implemented are as follows: 1) expand the VITA program, 2) expand PSA and reentry, 3) facilitate youth leadership, parenting, and drop out intervention.

All are welcome to our steering committee meetings. We know Weed and Seed works! (See the graphic below.) But we still need your support and participation to continue the effort. Please call 570-6530 for more information.

...AND decreased the concentration of crime in the Designated Area.

Approximately 35% of the City's Population Lives In the Weed and Seed Designated Area (DA)



* Weed & Seed Patrols Began 5/2005